

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

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COUNTRY	Chile	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Communist-Sponsored South American Youth Festival	DATE DISTR.	11 May 1954
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1. The Falange Youth Movement of Chile has voted against participating in the Communist-sponsored Festival of Students and Youth for Peace and Friendship, to be held in Santiago in January 1955; but Julio SILVA, Communist-influenced president of the youth movement, has not yet announced this to the press.¹
2. The Federation of Students of the University of Chile (FECh) was to have voted on 3 May 1954 on whether or not to attend the festival, but at the last minute the invitation was withdrawn by Mario BAEZA, president of the Chilean organizing committee of the festival. BAEZA apparently feared a negative result and thus avoided, at least temporarily, an FECh vote on the Communist meeting.

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1. Comment. The Santiago press has recently published a declaration issued by the national Catholic Students' Association, condemning the youth festival as a Communist meeting. The declaration included a statement that the Chilean episcopate prohibited participation in the festival by Catholic institutions.

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